GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1802
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
INDIAN RAILWAYS CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION
AJAY CHAKRABORTY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation has started proper functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) was set up in September 1999 under the Ministry of Railways with a view to upgrade catering services on Indian Railways and to promote rail tourism. Indian Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IRCTC in the month of April 2001, IRCTC has already commenced business and the Corporation is managing on-board catering services on New Delhi − Lucknow Shatabdi Express w.e.f. 29.5.2001. The Corporation has also started value added tour packages in association with travel agencies. Other projects to be immediately taken up by the corporation include management of catering services on New Delhi − Hatia and New Delhi − Bilaspur Rajdhani Express trains expected to be introduced shortly, setting up of Food Plazas and management of all new licences in case of major catering/vending units on Indian Railways.

(c) Does not arise.